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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

In Chicago, prices decreased 5 cents on all sizes. Elsewhere, prices were generally unchanged. The market tone was primarily weak with values trending sharply lower for next week. Demand was light to occasionally moderate. Supplies were fully adequate to ample. Breaking stock demand was light and unaggressive for at least sufficient offerings. Light type hens were adequate to fully adequate for the light to fair demand.

NORTH ATLANTIC In Boston, prices were unchanged to 5 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was weak and unsettled entering the weekend. Demand was mostly light. Supplies were available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the light and unaggressive demand. Light type hens were adequate to fully adequate for the light to fair demand. Processing schedules for next week were reported as regular.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was about steady to weak entering the weekend. Retail and distributive demand was light to moderate. Supplies were fully adequate to ample at current price levels.

MIDWEST Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were 5 cents lower for large and medium and were unchanged for small. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak. Retail demand remained light with reports of slight improvement in limited areas. Food service movement was slow to instances moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample with mediums in the longest position. Central states nest run breaking stock and checks and undergrades were lower. Demand was very light with offerings at least adequate to fully adequate. Floor stocks were adequate to mostly fully adequate and building at this call with many breakers attempting to reduce next week's schedules. Trade sentiment barely steady.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes declined 5 cents. The market tone was weak. Retail and food service demand mixed and ranged from very light to moderate and best where limited features are planned or in progress. Supplies adequate or available.

SOUTHERN Prices were unchanged. The market tone was unsettled to weak entering the weekend. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending sharply lower on all sizes. Demand was mostly light. Supplies were available to ample. Breaking stock supplies were adequate for the light and unaggressive demand. Light type fowl were adequate to fully adequate for the light to fair demand.

WEST COAST Prices unchanged. The market tone was very weak with asking prices for next week 13-14 cents lower on all sizes. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings light within the region, burdensome on extra large and large loose from outside.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	99-113	92-106	76-78
New York	63-67	61-65	54-58
Philadelphia	61-77	60-75	53-67
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	70-74	68-71	60-63
Jackson (1)	74-76	73-75	65-67
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	81-89	80-88	70-78
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	54-58	52-56	45-49
Detroit (2)	63-68	62-67	58-60
Major Ohio Cities (2)	65-69	64-67	56-60
Major Wisconsin Cities	66-73	65-71	58-63
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	86-89	83-86	72-78
Southern California (Grade AA)(4)	89-99	87-92	79-84
California (Grade AA) (1) (3)	107	100	92

(1) - Prices reported weekly

(2) - Delivered Warehouse

(3) - Reported Invoice prices

(4) - Prices to Retailers

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was very weak with asking prices for next week 14 cents lower on all sizes. Retailer demand mainly moderate. California offerings light, out of state loose large and extra large burdensome. Small invoice price 72. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large dozen 99, large dozen 99.

CALIFORNIA PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	110
EXTRA LARGE	107
LARGE	100
MEDIUM	92

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	91-102
EXTRA LARGE	89-99
LARGE	87-92
MEDIUM	79-84

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	239-299
EXTRA LARGE	229-279
LARGE	199-229
MEDIUM	179-199

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices lower. Demand was very light with offerings at least adequate to fully adequate. Floor stocks were adequate to mostly fully adequate and building at this call with many breakers attempting to reduce next week's schedules. Trade sentiment barely steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	27-30	27-29
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-17	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices were sharply lower when compared to early week trading. The market tone was irregular and highly unsettled as buyers cautiously watch further market developments. Demand was light and unaggressive. Supplies were adequate for mostly normal processing schedules. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending January 30, 2002 was 2 percent less than the previous week, however was 1 percent more than the same week a year earlier.

PRICES MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	27-31	28-30
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	13-23	14-16

EASTERN REGION AREA:

AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 26-Jan-02
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,087,298	24,619	10,855	5,822	2,620	4,076
PW	1,110,938	25,123	11,180	5,823	3,120	4,189
LY	1,087,784	24,581	10,999	6,098	3,052	4,009
% CHG PW	-2	-2	-3	0	-16	-3
% CHG LY	0	0	-1	-5	-14	2
2002	4,461,832	98,263	46,331	24,653	12,222	16,853
2001	4,372,956	98,836	44,125	24,241	11,167	15,935
% CHG YTD	2	-1	5	2	9	6
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR	
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)			41.73	41.69	42.00	
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)			37.98	37.92	38.31	

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 65 to 68 cents fob, with pasteurized whites reported at 15 cents fob. Trade sentiment steady for whites and weak for whole egg and yolk. Demand was very slow for whole egg, mostly light to instances moderate and trailing off rapidly by the week's close on yolk. White demand was moderate to good. Offerings of whole egg and yolk were fully adequate with whites about adequate. Buyers were hesitant and generally uninterested in spot loads of whole egg and yolk and most eyes were on any current developments in Japan. Breaking stock values were sharply lower when compared to last week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 01 February, 2002 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	8	27-32	30.44	.11
WHITES	26	5.5-14.25	9.90	.46
YOLKS	11	61-68	65.27	-2.61

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Mostly prices were unchanged to lower whole egg and salted yolks, lower on sugared yolks, and unchanged on whites when compared to previous week's trading. Demand was light to fair for at least adequate offerings. The undertone was cautiously steady and unsettled. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending January 26, 2002 were 3% lower than the previous week, but 3% higher than the same week last year. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	LT (MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	RANGE
WHOLE	37-45	40-41	49-53
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		65-85
WHITES	22-31	22-25	28-46
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	75-80	76-79	83-87
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	71-75	73-75	79-90
(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.			

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Prices ranged unchanged to lower on all frozen products. Demand was seasonally light with offerings at least adequate. Processors were reluctant to add to current inventories and all were keeping a close eye on further developments in Japan. Trade sentiment steady on whites and about steady to barely steady on the balance of frozen products. Breaking stock supplies were adequate and building with prices sharply lower when compared to last week. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	40-43	41-42
WHITES	22-31	22-25
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	76-80	77-79
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	72-75	

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices unchanged. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 1/26 was 10% less than the previous week. Breaking stock light. Frozen demand slowed and freezer stocks were adequate. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, FOB SHIPPING POINT (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS) LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)

	RANGE
WHOLE	48-51
WHITES	29-32
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	83-86
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	79-82

NATIONAL DRIED EGG Mostly prices were unchanged to lower on whole egg and yolk and lower on the remainder of items when compared to a week earlier. Trading and demand was light to fair. Supplies were at least adequate for current trade requirements. The undertone was unsettled and cautiously steady. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending January 26, 2002 were 16% lower than the previous week and 14% less than the same week last year. The overall total dried egg year to date change was 9% more than a year earlier.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB., IN CONTAINERS, TRUCKLOT AND LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

WHOLE	1.42-1.60	MOSTLY 1.50-1.55
YOLKS	1.61-1.80	MOSTLY 1.70-1.75
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	1.80-2.15	MOSTLY 1.85-1.95
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.15-1.25	MOSTLY 1.15-1.20

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR JAN 25, 2002-JAN 31, 2002

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS							
112.00								75.25							
SE		NE		MW		SC		NW		SW		TOTAL LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	41.00	50.33	46.20	46.19	35.86	40.43	52.25	GNR W XL	—	61.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 2	—	47.00	—	—	—	—	10.00	GNR W 1	—	48.08	—	—	—	—	7.25
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	26.00	35.00	3.00	GNR W 2	—	53.83	—	—	—	—	7.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	49.00	—	—	4.75	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	56.00	—	1.25	GL W J	58.38	64.00	—	—	—	66.33	3.25
GL W XL	—	54.28	50.83	54.14	45.22	56.00	36.75	GL W XL	49.50	57.67	—	—	—	54.78	20.75
GL W LG	30.00	64.75	31.20	33.50	44.38	46.00	18.00	GL W LG	40.00	58.52	—	—	—	47.82	15.25
GL W MD	—	47.00	43.75	45.50	31.78	48.00	11.50	GL W MD	—	49.00	—	—	—	39.94	5.50
GL W SM	25.50	27.00	24.31	26.06	23.40	24.00	6.25	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	—	34.00	.25
NRBS - 48	31.33	34.33	27.00	30.00	28.96	30.59	52.00	NRBS - 45	26.00	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	22.86	25.27	15.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	15.00	17.00	—	23.70	10.25								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was light to fair for the adequate to fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal. Cannery movement was fair and clearing. The undertone was about steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Offerings ample for the light demand. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was no better than moderate for fully adequate offerings. Finished sales were only fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

LIVE TYPE HENS

CENTS PER LB., DAY OF NEGOTIATION, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0-0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0-0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0 (2)	

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 01-Feb-02 AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	70.54	68.66	61.37
SOUTHERN	77.70	75.95	67.11
MIDWEST	65.82	64.23	57.29
WESTERN	97.74	92.67	84.38
TWELVE METRO AREAS	79.96	76.97	69.29

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were generally unchanged on heavy canners unchanged to slightly lower on the lights, when compared to a week earlier. Demand was generally fair for the adequate to at least adequate offerings. The undertone was cautiously steady.

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, W/O FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
24-25.5 MAJORITY	30-38 MAJORITY 31-34

CENTS/POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25.5-28 MAJORITY 25.5-27	32-38.5 MAJORITY 34.75-35.75

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 26-Jan-02

(PRELIMINARY) **U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,784	1,232	3,016
LAST WEEK	1,881	1,298	3,179
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,032	1,353	3,385
TO-DATE/2002	7,075	5,079	12,154
TO-DATE/2001	7,151	4,746	11,897

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	437	0	437
LAST WEEK	423	0	423
SAME WEEK YR AGO	607	0	607
TO-DATE/2002	1,274	8	1,282
TO-DATE/2001	2,160	20	2,180

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

(THOUSANDS)	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	2,221	1,232	3,453
LAST WEEK	2,304	1,298	3,602
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,639	1,353	3,992
TO-DATE/2002	8,349	5,087	13,436
TO-DATE/2001	9,311	4,766	14,077

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending Jan 19, 2002	Year-To-Date			
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Liquid	249	91	735	290
Frozen	0	0	0	0
Dried	0	0	0	0
Total	249	91	735	290

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending Jan 19, 2002	Year-To-Date			
	2002	2001/1	2002	2001
Liquid	64	59	132	126
Frozen	79	26	160	47
Dried	120	15	168	40
Total	263	100	460	213

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending Jan 19, 2002	Year-To-Date			
	2002	2001 /1	2002	2001
Jumbo	0	0	0	0
Extra Large	0	300	240	605
Large	0	1,540	1,499	4,380
Medium	1,050	750	1,160	750
Ungraded	0	0	0	3,750
Misc	0	0	66	787
Total	1,050	2,590	2,965	10,272

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, LOOSE, AT FARM (CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS).

CENTS PER DOZEN	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	33-36	26-30	7-10

NEW ENGLAND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
120-123	80-83	73-76	57-60	25-28

DETROIT PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE. CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
69-79	62-66	60-65	56-59	25-29

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 28-Jan-02	3,131	107,465	61,158
AM 1-Jan-02	3,061	77,538	71,974
CHG	70	29927	-10816
PCT CHG	2	39	-15

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 26-Jan-02

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG PW	LY
ATLANTA	20.8	23.4	-11	-10
BOSTON	3.5	3.7	-5	-10
CHICAGO	49.5	49.8	-1	8
DETROIT	26.5	32.7	-19	-2
KANSAS CITY	4.0	4.3	-7	-27
LOS ANGELES	106.5	118.3	-10	-17
NEW ORLEANS	11.3	11.5	-2	22
NEW YORK	37.5	35.1	7	4
ST. LOUIS	17.2	17.2	0	30
SAN FRANCISCO	24.2	23.0	5	-2
TOTAL	301.0	319.0	-6	-5
4 WK MVG AVG	320.6			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 26-Jan-02

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	224.9	-3	3
E.N. CENTRAL	545.4	-6	7
W.N. CENTRAL	291.7	-5	12
S. ATLANTIC	173.8	-2	-14
S. CENTRAL	77.4	1	4
WEST	180.7	-9	2
TOTAL	1493.9	-5	4
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		88	88

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG JANUARY 29, 2002.

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	125	118	90	58
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	116-120	109-113	83-87	51-55
MOSTLY	118-119	111-112	85-86	53-54
RHODE ISLAND	124-128	117-121	89-93	57-61
MOSTLY	124	117	89	57
VERMONT	125-128	120-121	89-93	-
MOSTLY	128	121	93	-

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CHICKENS AND EGGS Released January 31, 2002**DECEMBER EGG PRODUCTION UP 2 PERCENT**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.40 billion during December 2001, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.33 billion table eggs and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 62.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2001 averaged 339 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during December 2000. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,187 eggs, slightly below the 2,193 eggs in December 2000.

December 2001 contained 21 weekdays, one holiday and five Saturdays, equal to December 2000.

All layers in the U.S. on January 1, 2002, totaled 339 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 339 million layers consisted of 280 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.59 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on January 1, 2002, averaged 69.8 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from the 70.4 eggs a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.95 billion eggs during December 2001, up 2 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during December, at 317 million, was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

CHICKENS AND EGGS 2001 SUMMARY

January 2002

Highlights

Egg Production up 1 Percent: Egg production during the year ending November 30, 2001 totaled a record high 85.6 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the previous year's total of 84.4 billion eggs. Table egg production, at 72.7 billion eggs, increased 2 percent from 2000. Hatching egg production, at 12.9 billion eggs, decreased slightly.

Average Number of Layers Up 2 Percent: Layer numbers during 2001 averaged 335 million, up 2 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2001 was 256 eggs, down slightly from the 2000 average of 257.

December 1 Inventory Numbers: The total number of chickens on hand on December 1, 2001 (excluding commercial broilers) was 441 million birds, up 1 percent from last year.

Potential layers (layers 20 weeks old and older, plus pullets 13 weeks and older but less than 20 weeks) on hand December 1, 2001, totaled 381 million, up 3 percent from December 1, 2000. Of the 381 million potential layers, 89 percent were 20 weeks old and older and the remainder were pullets 13 weeks and older but less than 20 weeks.

The total value of all chickens on December 1, 2001 was \$1.07 billion, up 1 percent from December 1, 2000. The average value decreased from \$2.44 per bird on December 1, 2000, to \$2.42 per bird on December 1, 2001.